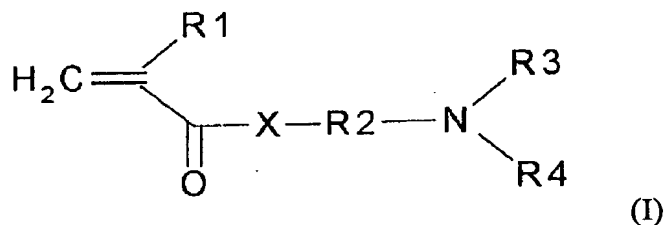


Abstract:

The invention relates to antimicrobial polymers and
5 polymer blends which are prepared by polymerizing a
monomer of the formula I



where

10 R1 = -H or -CH₃

R2 = branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon
radical having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms,

R3 = H, or branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon
radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms,

15 R4 = H, or branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon
radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms,

R5 = H, or branched or unbranched aliphatic hydrocarbon
radical having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, and

X = O, NH, NR₅

20 and, where appropriate, then mixing with at least one
other polymer.

The antimicrobial polymers or blends may be used for
producing hygiene items or items for medical
25 technology, e.g. as a coating, or else in surface
coatings or protective paints. They may also be used in
a process for eliminating/reducing biofouling in water
systems.